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RCE/1734#

PTO/SB/30 (10-01)  
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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<b>REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL</b>  Address to: Commissioner for Patents Box RCE Washington, DC 20231	Application Number	09/095,365
	Filing Date	June 10, 1998
	First Named Inventor	Takeshi KAKINUMA
	Group Art Unit	1734
	Examiner Name	L. Gray
	Attorney Docket No.	163852016000

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This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114**

a. ☐ Previously submitted

i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).

ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_

iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

b. ☒ Enclosed

i. ☐ Amendment/Reply

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

iv. ☒ Other PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

2. **Miscellaneous**

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)

b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17 (e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 03-1952

i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)

ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)

iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

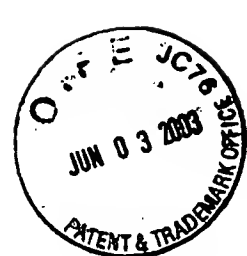
b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED			
Name (Print/Type)	Deborah S. Gladstein	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	43,636
Signature	<i>Deborah S. Gladstein</i>	Date	June 3, 2003

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PATENT  
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**CERTIFICATE OF HAND DELIVERY**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being hand filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office in Washington, D.C. on June 3, 2003.

*N. DeRiggi*  
N. DeRiggi

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the application of:

Takeshi KAKINUMA et al.

Serial No.: 09/095,365

Filing Date: June 10, 1998

For: SHEET SORTING APPARATUS

Examiner: Linda Lamey Gray

Group Art Unit: 1734

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

**Mail Stop RCE**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination and calculation of the fees, please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.